

REMARKS

Claims 4, 12-68, 72-74 and 79-80 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 5, 10 and 69 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-3, 5-11, 69-71, and 75-78 remain pending.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claim 4 has been cancelled.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-11 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dames et al.* in view of *Okamoto et al.*

The rejection is respectfully traversed. With respect to Claim 1, the Office Action asserts that *Dames* discloses a position detection system for locating an object including a magnetic field generator, comprising a plurality of drivers each associated with a parallel conductor and configured to drive current through to produce an energizing field (citing *Dames* at col. 2, lines 36-39). However, *Dames* only discloses a position location system with “a first member which contains passive devices or devices powered by external magnetic induction from an energizing loop”, as opposed to a position location system comprising “a plurality of drivers each coupled with a parallel conductor and configured to drive current through to produce an energizing field used in locating the object.” In particular, the passive and/or induction-powered devices described by *Dames* are not “drivers” as recited in Claim 1, as a driver is an active device that is not powered by induction. Moreover, neither *Dames* nor *Okamoto*, either singularly or in combination, teaches or suggests “a plurality of drivers each coupled with a parallel conductor and configured to drive current through to produce an energizing field used in locating the

object.” As these elements are not described by either *Dames* or *Okamoto*, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 2-3 and 5-11 depend from Claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 69-78 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dames et al.* in view of *Okamoto et al.*

Similarly, with respect to Claim 69, neither *Dames* nor *Okamoto*, either singularly or in combination, teaches or suggests “a method for detecting position of an object including a resonator, comprising providing an array of parallel conductors responsive to the resonator; providing a plurality of receivers; associating each receiver with a parallel conductor; providing a plurality of drivers; and associating each driver with a parallel conductor to drive current through the parallel conductor to produce an energizing field used in locating the object,” as recited in Claim 69. As such, Claim 69 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 70-71 and 75-78 depend from Claim 69 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment with additions underlined and deletions struck through. The attached page is captioned “Version with markings to show changes made.”

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



William J. James
Registration No. 40,661
V 650 903 3502
F 650 903 3501

VAN PELT AND YI, LLP
4906 El Camino Real, Suite 205
Los Altos, CA 94022

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. A position detection system for locating an object including a magnetic field generator, comprising:

an array of parallel conductors responsive to a magnetic field generated by the magnetic field generator; [and]

a plurality of receivers each associated with a parallel conductor [.]; and

a plurality of drivers each coupled with a parallel conductor and configured to drive current through to produce an energizing field used in locating the object.

5. The system as recited in claim [4] 1, wherein at least one driver is configured to send current through the associated parallel conductor in one direction, and at least one driver is configured to send current through the associated parallel conductor in an opposite direction.

10. The system as recited in claim [4] 1, wherein the magnetic field generator includes a resonator that is energized by the energizing field.

69. A method for detecting position of an object including a resonator, comprising:

providing an array of parallel conductors responsive to the resonator;

providing a plurality of receivers; [and]

associating each receiver with a parallel conductor[.];

providing a plurality of drivers; and

associating each driver with a parallel conductor to drive current through the parallel conductor to produce an energizing field used in locating the object.